

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 /081 W

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R 091530Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5715

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL DURBAN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0197

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV PFOR POGV SF WA

SUBJ: TURNHALLE DEVELOPMENTS

REF: A) CAPE TOWN 0164 AND 0165; B) PRETORIA 0575

1. SUMMARY: TURNHALLE CHAIRMAN MUDGE HAS DESCRIBED TO PRESS AGREEMENT REACHED ON COMPOSITION OF 60-MAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND HOW THE SECOND TIER OF GOVERNMENT BASED ON POPULATION GROUPS WILL OPERATE. END SUMMARY.

2. DIRK MUDGE, CHAIRMAN OF TURNHALLE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE, HAS DESCRIBED TO REPORTERS PROGRESS MADE BY THE WORKING COMMITTEE SINCE PREPARATION OF REFTEL (A). ACCORDING TO MUDGE, COMMITTEE HAS RESOLVED COMPOSITION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ISSUE AND MOVED ON TO CHAPTER IV, CONFIDENTIAL

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REPRESENTATIVE (SECOND TIER) AUTHORITIES. THE SOLUTION ON ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP IS TO SET A LIMIT OF 60 SEATS. EACH ETHNIC GROUP IS TO HAVE FOUR SEATS FOR A TOTAL OF 44 WITH THE REMAINING 16 DISTRIBUTED ON A PROPORTIONAL BASIS. THE OVAMBO WITH THE LARGEST POPULATION WILL RECEIVE 8 MORE FOR A TOTAL OF 12. THE WHITE GROUP, NEXT IN LINE IN SIZE, WILL HAVE 2 ADDITIONAL SEATS AND

ONE EACH GOES TO THE DAMARAS, HEREROS, KAVANGOS, NAMAS,
CAPRIVIS AND COLOREDS. THIS LEAVES BASTERS, BUSHMEN
AND TSWANA WITH 4 EACH.

2. ON CHAPTER IV, MUDGE SAID THAT CONSENSUS HAD BEEN
REACHED ON THE MAJORITY OF THE PROVISIONS INCLUDING
COMPOSITION, FUNCTIONS AND AREAS OF JURISDICTION.
POPULATION GROUPS WITH ALREADY ESTABLISHED "REPRESENTATIVE
AUTHORITIES" (OVAMBOS, WHITES, BUSHMEN, CAPRIVIS, KAVANGO,
COLOREDS, NAMAS AND BASTERS) WOULD RETAIN THESE AUTHORITIES
AS THEIR SECOND-TIER MECHANISM IN THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT.
LEGISLATION WHICH HAD ESTABLISHED THESE AUTHORITIES WOULD
BE RETAINED AS THEIR CONSTITUTIONS. POPULATION GROUPS
COULD ASK THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FOR AMENDMENTS TO THEIR
EXISTING CONSTITUTIONS AND THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT COULD
NOT REFUSE. IN THE CASE OF POPULATION GROUPS WITH NO EXISTING
"REPRESENTATIVE AUTHORITIES" WHEN THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT IS
ESTABLISHED, THE PRESENT DELEGATIONS TO THE TURNHALLE
WILL SERVE AS THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE FOR THE SELECTION
OF MEMBERS TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. SHOULD THESE
POPULATION GROUPS DECIDE TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN
REPRESENTATIVE AUTHORITY, THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
WILL ACT ON THEIR BEHALF UNTIL THE AUTHORITY IS
ESTABLISHED.

4. THE PRESS ACCOUNTS INDICATE THAT MUDGE EXPRESSED
THE HOPE THAT THE FULL THRUNHALLE WOULD APPROVE THE
WORKING COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION BY THE END OF MARCH.
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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